

BRING BACK TO ME.

You ask me what—since we must part—
You shall bring home to me;
Bring back a pure and faithful heart,

TRUSTING IN PROVIDENCE.

BY HELEN FORREST GRAVES.



WHESS it's goin' to be a snappin' cold night, mother," said Miss Elsa Robbins,

glad, mother, that we've got the russet apples safe in the cellar, for it's on them I place my main dependence for the interest money this year.
Mrs. Robbins sat knitting in the cushioned rocker—a wrinkled, bright-eyed little old woman, whose caps were always spottedly clean, and whose dresses never seemed to wear out.

tears in the corners of her hard, gray eyes.
"You dear, old mother!" said she. Let Walter's widow and her children come. We're poor, and in debt, and can't find bread for our own two selves; but I believe, for once, I'll follow your example, mother, and trust in Providence.

Mrs. Walter Robbins was sitting by the fire also, but not such a fire as illumines the farmhouse kitchen with a softer shine than any electric light. It was a mere handful of coals, in a rustic grate, over which she bent with a shudder, as the wind howled by, shaking the window-panes and rattling the paper shades.

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"There's a fire, dear," said Mrs. Robbins; "but we can't have much, for there's only a peek of coal left in the box."

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Miss Elsa had made waffles for supper, and had fried some fresh crullers, brown and light as butterfly wings. She had brought in the parlor lamp, and bunted up two little china mugs, handleless, and with the gilt inscription faded off, which had been hers and her dead sister's, as children, long ago.

And Mrs. Robbins, in her clean cap, sat smiling by the hearthstone, when Walter's widow came in, her black dress powdered over with the snow which had begun to fall at the gathering of dusk, and with the two little girls clinging to her hand.

"My dear," said Mrs. Robbins, "you are welcome—kindly welcome—you and the dear little girls!"
And Elsa came in, her face softened for the moment, and led them hospitably to the fire.

"It's a poor place," said she; "but mother is right—you are welcome!"
The children looked timidly around at the black beams which traversed the roof overhead—the deep-set windows, with their broad ledges filled with musk plants and fish geraniums—the strings of red peppers above the mantel—and the brass candlesticks, which glittered as if they were made of gold.

told you yet," she said, timidly. "I couldn't write it, because I did not know it myself at the time that I appealed to you. I am not so poor as everyone thought. Poor, dear Walter's mining ventures have turned out better than anyone expected. A lawyer from the South came to see me last night, and told me that I am to have at least a thousand dollars a year."

"Eh?" said Elsa, almost incredulously.
"It ain't possible?" chirped Mrs. Robbins.
"Ah," went on Mrs. Walter, "if you will allow me to live here and share it with you—"

Salaries of High Officials.
An American Cabinet officer gets \$3000 a year, and has an allowance for stationery and for a private secretary.
As principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Lord Salisbury drew \$20,000 a year and \$2000 for a private secretary.

The English Attorney General is not a member of the Cabinet, but he draws \$21,000 a year and about \$20,000 extra in fees.
The Lord President of the Council draws \$10,000 a year, and so do the presidents of the Boards of Trade and Agriculture.

When an English Minister's term expires he may receive an annuity of \$10,000 if he makes affidavit that he actually needs it.
The English Minister of Foreign Affairs is supposed to give three receptions a year. If he is a poor man he gives only the great dinner and ball on the occasion of the Queen's birthday. This sometimes costs \$5000. The Queen's household often helps out by supplying the flowers from the royal conservatories.

The Sheriff's "Poser."
When Jack Ringo was Sheriff of Menefee County, Kentucky, and a good one by the way, says the Hazel Green Herald, he found that the owner of some property in that county had not paid his taxes and was a non-resident, as he lived in the adjoining county of Powell. So Jack, finding nothing in his own county upon which to levy for the taxes rode over into Powell and drove one of the delinquent's cows into Menefee to secure the debt. Subsequently he met with the lamented Congressman Wick Kendall, who was then Prosecuting Attorney of that district, and put the question:

"Wick, can the Sheriff in one county, where taxes are due, go into an adjoining county, and levy on property to satisfy the claim?"
"Why, of course not," replied Wick.
"Well, I know better," said Jack.
"Bat I tell you it can't be done," persisted Wick.
"I know better," retorted Jack, "for, by gum, I have just done that very thing," and Wick admitted his defeat in the argument.

His Definition.
The best definition of good housekeeping that I ever heard was that given by a little slip of a boy, who, after listening a long time to a very learned discussion from some of his mother's club associates on the best way to order a home, was asked: "Well, my little man, what kind of a home do you think is best?"
A beautiful light came to the child's eyes. He tossed back his yellow hair and shook his head: "I don't know much about it. Just the only kind that I like is the home that 's nice to go to." And when all the philosophy, theory, science and wisdom of the subject had been exhausted, the women there assembled had to agree that the very best home, after all, was the home that—it was nice to go to.—Philadelphia Press.

Prince of Wales Buying Land.
The Prince of Wales is buying large tracts of land in the Dartmoor district of England, apparently intending to form an extensive deer forest and hunting region. To obtain the necessary purchase money he has, through his agents, disposed of South African and other securities. There are signs of a marked clearing up in the Prince's financial affairs. Any sums he owed to Baron Hirsch, Sir Albert Sassoon and others have been paid off. These debts never amounted to anything like the large sums generally reported. The Prince is now able to invest largely in land.—New York Tribune.

PROGRESS OF THE FLOOD.

River Continues to Rise in Louisiana Levee District.

PEOPLE SUFFERING FOR FOOD.

At Kansas City the River is Above the Danger Line—Vicksburg Asks for Two Thousand Tents.

While the condition of affairs in the overflowed Mississippi delta is reported brighter, the situation between Vicksburg and New Orleans is causing the greatest apprehension. The river continues to rise in the Louisiana levee district and weak spots in the levee are being strengthened.

The water at Rosedale, Miss., has not receded. The first train that has entered Clarksdale for many days has arrived there. Trains are also being run from Clarksdale to Minter City and Phillips, from Lulu to Jonestown. At Helena the situation is unchanged. At a meeting of the property owners of that city it was decided to begin the erection of a new levee around the city. At Memphis the river rose one-tenth of a foot in 24 hours. An additional slight rise is looked for.

The news that came to the War Department at Washington, from the lower Mississippi valley is conflicting. Below Vicksburg the conditions appear to differ from those above. The most alarming statement is as to the number of people suffering for food, while the prospecting officers in Louisiana counsel against too liberal assistance as likely to lead to bad labor conditions. Just before the close of office hours, Secretary Alger received another telegram from Vicksburg, representing that the people in the Sun Flower district were cut off from dry land and in great need of food and forage. He immediately called his bureau officers in conference and then ordered another steambot to take on supplies and start for the scene of distress.

The Situation at Kansas City.
A special from Kansas City of the 15th inst. says: "The river has risen eight inches since yesterday, marking three inches above the danger line, and is still coming up slowly. Two miles up the river the Burlington tracks are endangered. The last of the families on Lewis Island, a small place at the mouth of the Kansas river, has moved out. The place is entirely submerged and the water at the lowest point touches the eaves of the houses."

Two Thousand Want Tents.
A mass meeting was held at Vicksburg, Miss., and a request sent to Washington, through Governor McLaughlin, for tents to shelter 2,000 refugees from the flood. The city council was also requested to appropriate \$500 and private subscriptions will be solicited. There are reports of additional loss of life on parts of Davis island, not visited by relief boats.

At Rosedale, Miss., Mary Robinson, colored, 14 years old, was drowned by the sinking of a canoe. This makes the sixth victim claimed by the flood in two weeks in this vicinity.

At Omaha, Neb., the flood situation is grave. The torrents poured from the Missouri across the North Omaha Gardens, into Florence and cut off lakes. The former has lost its identity in the general flood and the latter may be seen.

NEWORLEAN'S BIG FIRE.

Nearly Half a Million Dollars Loss—Fire at Kansas City.

One of the most picturesque business structures in New Orleans, known as the Moresque building, owned by Gauch & Sons, was totally destroyed by fire Thursday afternoon. The conflagration broke out shortly before 1 o'clock, and in an incredibly short space of time the whole building was a mass of flames that burnt with a velocity absolutely astonishing. At 2:30 the edifice had collapsed and upwards of \$400,000 had gone up in smoke. The Moresque building occupied one block, bounded by Camp, Perdido and Church streets and LaFayette Square, and its walls were built entirely of iron, in a design known as the Moorish. The Montgomery Furniture Company and Gauch & Sons, crockery merchants, were the occupants, and both firms carried full stocks. The fire is supposed to have originated on the top floor of the Montgomery section.

The following is the estimate of losses and insurance: Gauch & Sons \$100,000 on building, \$60,000 on stock, insurance \$125,000; Montgomery Furniture Co. loss \$100,000, insurance \$80,000; German Gazette loss \$25,000, insurance \$12,000; Evening Telegram loss \$20,000, no insurance; Warren hotel and saloon loss \$10,000, insurance \$5,000; James Aiken, plumber, loss \$10,000, insurance \$5,000; Heath, Schwartz Sons' Wall Paper Company loss \$15,000, insurance \$10,000.

The insurance is about equally divided between local and foreign companies. Outside the specified cases of loss the damage to adjacent property is estimated to be \$10,000, all fully insured. Total loss \$400,000, with an insurance of \$393,000.

Mother of Senator Hanna Dead.
A special from Asheville, N. C., says that Mrs. S. M. Hanna, the mother of Senator Hanna, died at that city, from pneumonia. Mrs. Hanna had only been sick about a week, and was 84 years old. Her remains will be taken to Cleveland for interment.



A WOMAN HORSE TRADER.
Probably the only woman horse dealer in the country is now living in Idaho. She recently sold a number of carloads of horses in Georgia and Louisiana at very high prices. She has found the South a good market, owing to the demand for horses caused by the war in Cuba.

TRAINED MILLINERS.
In a first-class establishment a good maker receives from \$12 to \$15 per week; a trimmer from \$20 to \$30. This trade, once learned, is one which a woman may resume at any time in her life—should she marry in youth and leave it, as so many women do leave occupations by which they have earned their maiden bread—since it may be pursued in her own home. Many "parlor" milliners earn very considerable incomes.—St. Louis Star.

MILLINERY MATTERS.
Some of the new French millinery show very oddly shaped hats formed of gilt-straw tails and green, violet, or brilliant red Milan braid. Light, airy tulle will be greatly favored on Easter hats as well as for models for the entire summer, and the most suitable and satisfactory qualities are the tulle laces, with applique patterns, which are well adapted for the effects now required by fashion. Odd and very striking colors are still used on all fashionable headgear, and flowers, ribbons, laces, tulle pom-poms and fancy clasps and sides are heaped in bewildering profusion on the latest French creations.

THE COIFFURE'S SKYWARD TENDENCY.
Fashion, like history, is ever repeating itself. The present mode of hair dressing, though in itself so becoming, brings with it the premonition of the high powdered coiffure worn by our great grandmothers in colonial days. The tendency to pile the hair high on the head is very marked, and the ornaments added to complete an evening toilet—sigarettes and feathers held in place by jeweled pins, or high bows spangled with jewels and flowers—increase the height of the coiffure. The straight banded hair, with its smooth parting, has quite disappeared, and in its place reigns the pompadour with light curls straying on the forehead.

Fashion is sufficiently lenient, however, to permit, in individual cases, the survival of the most becoming. With a long face, the hair will always look best when arranged in soft loops below the crown of the head.—The Puritan.

THE USE OF RIBBONS.

Very rich and beautiful ribbons, in plain and fancy patterns and coloring, appear upon some of the richest and most beautiful Parisian models now exhibited by leading city houses. The use of ribbons this season are manifold, and there is hardly a dressy toilet without some touch of ribbon on the bodice at least. No matter what shirring, pleating, cording, milliners' folds, lace, or passementerie are used elsewhere on the gown; gathered girdles, braces, bow knots, pinstones, blouse effects, bolero fronts, stripes, ruffles, inserted puffs, and bands—all these and far more does ribbon supply. In Paris, wide oddly plaided and Pompadour ribbons are in great use. White and violet and white and vivid green plaids are used on silk, liberty satin, organdie, or challie gowns, in colors to match. One more word respecting ribbons: It is very fashionable to wear a sash going over one shoulder from the belt. The sash disappears under the folded waistband, but a very large butterfly bow with upstanding loops marks its introduction. The ribbon reappears below the belt, and then falls low on the skirt under the huge bow. The so-called "Tribby" bow covers the shoulder for several inches front and back; and in many cases, on full dress evening toilets, the satin or moire ribbon falls in three ends on each side, nearly to the waist.—New York Post.

RARE EMBROIDERY.

Perhaps the most accomplished designer and needlewoman in the world is Mme. St. George, who has charge of the classes in the Government Art School of Embroidery at Vienna. This institution is the glory of the Austrian capital. The entire course of instruction, which is free, lasts five years, but many pupils leave after two or three years, especially ladies who do not intend to make art work a profession and are satisfied with knowing the rudiments of either lace work or embroidery, for every year has its special course. Every year's course has its special room and instructress, and the pupils cannot go from one to the other until the year expires. The pupils of the last year's course were busily mending a magnificent canopy, the work of Empress Maria Theresa. An idea may be formed of the magnitude of the task when it is said that ten girls under Mme. St. George's superintendence had been working at it for ten years already, and she expected it would take two years more to complete it. Every kind of embroidery, including Persian, Indian,

Japanese, Turkish, etc., is done here, and the visitor is astonished to see some beautiful samples of the "nan-duty," or spider's web, made by the Guarini women of Paraguay and rarely seen in Europe. This lace is made of the fibre of the aloe and is so fine that it is made inside of the lute, with the door shut, so that not the least breath of wind can touch it.

MRS. ASTOR'S CHAIR COVERS.

When Mrs. John Jacob Astor went to Genoa, Italy, a year ago, she left word that her chairs in the parlor, library, guest and sleeping rooms should be covered with a fine cretonne to preserve them from dust. There were 300 of them. A few days before sailing she revoked the order and sent for the material. She also ordered that a "slip-cutter" be sent to her house. "Now," said she to the slip-cutter, "I want you to measure these chairs and sew one cover. Then give me the patterns and we will make the remainder of the covers at home."

The slip-cutter, though loth to lose so excellent a job for his establishment, complied with the wishes of this industrious homemaker and sent the cut-out slips.

Next day Mrs. Astor sat in her sewing room personally superintending the making of the chair covers. With a small model upon a stand in front of her, she basted the covers and instructed her maids how to put them together. By that little economical move the wife of a millionaire kept her home staff employed and fitted out her house with the prettiest of slip-covers. They were so ornamental that they have remained upon the chairs ever since.

To make covers for chairs—and many people desire to do so for a change as well as to save the more expensive covering—it will be found that the secret lies in the treatment of the edges. A strictly "tailor-made" look must prevail. With loose-threaded fabrics it is a good plan to run a maulage brush, wet with photographic's glue, along the raw edges before stitching. All the sewing must be done by machine.—Boston Herald.

FASHION NOTES.

Besides plenty of lace and ribbon large buttons matching the keynote of color will be used on the pretty cotton frocks.

Fronts of bodices and tops of sleeves are quaintly decorated with tucking. The close-fitting parts of some sleeves are trimmed with lengthwise tucks, developing near the shoulder into a short puff.

Fancy buttons of brass and enamel are much used, and add greatly more attractive. A pretty medallion button is edged with a row of brilliants, while others in odd shapes are seen. Barret ivory combined with brilliants forms a pretty button.

While one large buckle is very effective on a girdle, a number of small ones may be clustered on a belt in a way that is very fetching. These tiny buckles are formed almost entirely of precious stones, and are arranged in a decorative way, as one would use buttons on skirts.

Ribbons from four to six inches in width are undoubtedly claiming first favor as trimming. Valenciennes lace ranking next, then small "lingerie" tucks. Three ruffles of the goods or of lace arranged separately or in overlapping style are popular as garniture on skirts.

Plain silver and gold buckles have almost entirely disappeared, but those of Russian enamel or set with amethysts are greatly in demand. The turquoise is also used to a great extent on belt buckles, and can be secured at a much lower price than the various enamels. Brilliant and cut steel are fashionable, the former particularly so.

The ribbons in plain colors, floral designs and stripes are chiefly in taffeta weaves, and will be worn in large shoulder bows, belts, sashes having long ends, collars and bows across the bust. An entire piece of ribbon lavished upon a dimity gown or dainty organdie is not unusual—a style for which ribbon manufacturers should be daily thankful.

The accepted dress pattern for gowns of sheer materials is twelve yards of thirty-inch goods, unless several lace-edged ruffles are required for skirt, sleeves and front of bodice, in which case about fifteen yards are necessary. If changeable taffeta be not used as a lining a silky cotton imitation or a fine lawn is required, the prominent shades this year being brilliant pinks and greens, reds and turquoise, navy and yellow, clear white and violet.